Delay in implementation of Railway Development Plan

1271. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many development plans of the Railways have been held up due to resource crunch;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have drawn up plan involving State Government and Municipalities and other sources to meet this situation; and

(c) if so, the details of the Plan and by when it is likely to be given effect to?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Railways are facing resource crunch but it is not correct to say that development plans of the railways have been held up due to it. Progress on some on-gains projects like new lines has been slow.

(b) and (c) No specific plans exist for involving the State Government or Municipalities in developmental activity of the Railways. However, Railways are encouraging the participation of the State Government on case to case basis. A few examples are :

(i) Involving CIDCO of Maharashtra State Government to undertake certain projects on cost sharing basis;

(ii) Help is being taken from State Government for new line projects in the form of free transfer of Government land and giving relief in local taxes and levies on construction material;

(iii) Construction of Konkan Railway line by involving equity participation of the concerned State Governments.

रेल दुर्घटनायें

1272. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले छः महीनों में देश के विभिन्न भागों में हुई रेल दुर्घटनाओं की संख्या कितनी है और उनके क्या कारण थे ; और

(ख) उक्त दुर्घटनाओं में कितने व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हुई और कितने व्यक्ति घायल हुए और रेल मंत्रालय द्वारा उन्हें मुआवजे के रूप में कितनी धनराशि दी गई ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी० के० जाफ़र शरीफ़) : (क) जून से नवम्बर, 94 तक 262 परिणामी गाड़ी दुर्घटनायें हुईं : ये दुर्घटनायें मुख्यतः रेल कर्मचारियों की गलती, उपस्करों की खराबी, सड़क वाहन उपयोगकर्ताओं की लापरवाही तोड़-फोड़ आदि के कारण हुई।

(ख) इन दुर्घटनाओं में 100 व्यक्तियों की जानें गईं तथा 313 को चोटें आयी दुर्घटनाओं के शिकार व्यक्तियों को उनके द्वारा दावे दायर करने तथा रेल दावा अधिकरण द्वारा उनकी डिक्री किए जाने के बाद मुआवजे का भुगतान किया जाएगा, जबकि इन दुर्घटनाओं के शिकार व्यक्तियों को अनुग्रह राशि के रुप में 5.34 लाख रुपए का भुगतान किया गया है।

Electrification of Railway Tracks

1273. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what length of railway track has been electrified so far in the country;

(b) whether some railway track has been electrified in Punjab and Haryana too with details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therfor; and

(d) by when the rail track in these States will be electrified and track proposed for electrification?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) 11896 Route Kilometres upto 30-11-1994.

(b) and (c) Work of electrification of Delhi-Ambala-Ludhiana Section, parts of which (Narela-Ludhiana) fall in Haryana and Punjab is in progress. Portion Narela-Panipat (63 RKM) folling in Haryana has been electrified so far. Works are also in progress on Ambala-Jagadhari (51 RKM) falling in Haryana State as part of Ambala-Moradabad Railway Electrification Project.

(d) Electrification of Delhi-Ambala-Ludhiana is expected to be completed by March, 1997 and of Ambala-Jagadhari by March, 98.

Section Ludhiana-Jammu Tawi is presently under survey.

Privatisation of Railway Booking Reservation

1274. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to privatise Railway Ticketing including booking of Reservation;

(b) if so, the reasons which led to the privatisation of Railway booking;

(c) whether any guidelines have been framed therefor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and b) In order to provide added facility to the rail users there is already a system of private parties being authorise for the operation of City Booking Agencies and Out Agencies to sell railway tickets and book parcels. Tickets are also sold at Train Halts which are managed by Halt Contractors. Under the scheme of Rail Tourist Agents and General Service Agents, private parties are authorised to sell tickets and also arrange reservations on behalf of the Railways.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Rail Tourist Agents are authorised to work in terms of Rail Tourist Agents Rules, 1980. Mainly the Rail Tourist Agents must be financially sound and must possess a trade licence from the Competent Authority to carry out business of Tourist Agent. Halt contractors, City Booking Agents and Out Agents are appointed by calling for applications. Halt Contractors, City Booking Agents and Out Agents must be financially sound and must have the wherewithal to run the services.

समय सारणीबद्ध रेलगाड़ी के यकायक रद्द किए जाने पर यात्रियों के लिए वैकल्पिक व्यवस्था

1275. **श्री राम देव भंडारी :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) रेलगाड़ी के यकायक रद्द किए जाने की स्थिति में गाड़ी से यात्रा करने वाले यात्रियों के लिए क्या वैकल्पिक व्यवस्था की जाती है ;

(ख) क्या उस स्थिति में यात्रियों को पुनः आरक्षण कराने की आवश्यकता होती है ;

(ग) क्या उसके लिए विशेष गाड़ी की व्यवस्था की जाती है या उस मार्ग से जाने वाली अन्य गाड़ियों में अतिरिक्त बोगियां उपलब्ध करा कर उनको अपने-अपने गन्तव्यों तक पहुंचने में मदद की जाती है ; और

(घ) इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी० के० जाफ़र शरीफ़) : (क) से (घ) गाड़ियों को अचानक रद्द करने के मामले में आरक्षित यात्रियों को परिचालनिक व्यवहार्यतानुसार अतिरिक्त सवारी डिब्बे लगा कर तथा अन्य गाड़ियों में स्थान, यदि उपलब्ध हो, उपलब्ध करा के प्रयास किये जाते हैं कभी-कभी विशे गाड़ी भी चलाई जाती है जो सवा डिब्बों की उपलब्धता पर निर्भर करती है